

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A method for synthesizing speech with an apparatus comprising a sound source for generating a frequency signal, a vocal tract filter for filtering said frequency signal to generate a speech waveform signal, said filter having characteristics corresponding to a linear predictive coefficient calculated from respective phonemes in a phoneme series, comprising the steps of:

dividing each of said phonemes into N frames, each of said N frames having a predetermined time length;

summing squares of speech samples in one of said ~~plurality of~~N frames ~~for each frame as~~ a frame power value for each frame;

standardizing frame power values at head and tail frames in one phoneme to predetermined values, respectively, to obtain a standardized frame power value of an n-th frame, wherein (1 < n < N);

summing squares of signal levels of an n-th frame in said frequency signal to obtain a frame power correction value for the n-th frame; and

providing a speech envelope signal by means of a function having variables of said standardized frame power value of the n-th frame and said frame power correction value for the

n-th frame, and adjusting an amplitude level of said speech waveform signal ~~as a function of~~
based on the speech envelope signal.

2. (currently amended): A method according to claim 1, further comprising:
providing power frequency characteristics based on said linear predictive coefficient
corresponding to said n-th frame,

calculating an average value of power values sampled from said power frequency
characteristics at a predetermined frequency interval as a mean frame power value for the n-th
frame,

calculating a-said speech waveform envelope signal by means of a function having
variables of said standardized frame power value for the n-th frame, said frame power correction
value for the n-th frame and said mean frame power value for the n-th frame, and

adjusting an amplitude of said speech waveform signal ~~as a function of~~based on said
speech envelope signal.

3. (currently amended): A method according to claim 2, wherein said function is
expressed;

$$V_m = \sqrt{P_n / (G_s G_f)}$$

wherein P_n is said standardized frame power value for the n-th frame, G_s is said frame power correction value for the n-th frame, and G_f is said mean frame power value for the n-th frame.

4. (original): A method according to claim 1, wherein said frequency signal includes an impulse signal carrying a voiced sound and a noise signal carrying an unvoiced sound.